

Utah Citizens Advisory Commission (CAC) on Chemical Weapons Demilitarization
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
168 North 1950 West (Bldg. #2), Room 101
Salt Lake City, Utah
January 19, 2006
6:30 p.m.

Members Present	Members Absent
Deborah Kim, Chair	Dan Bauer
John Bennett	Jane Bowman
Dennis Downs	Rosemary Holt
Sidney Hullinger	Beverly White
Gregory Jones	
David Ostler	
Geoffrey Silcox	

I. Welcome/Minutes –Deborah Kim, Chair

Ms. Kim called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. and welcomed all present.

Ms. Kim announced the resignation of Geoffrey Silcox. Dr. Silcox is an Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Utah. Dr. Silcox has served on the CAC since 1997. Ms. Kim stated Dr. Silcox has been a very consistent and valuable member of the CAC. Ms. Kim stated it was with regret that the CAC accepts Dr. Silcox's resignation and presented him with a plaque for his years of service on the CAC.

Dr. Silcox stated that he will miss the interaction with the CAC members and that it has been a pleasure serving on the CAC. Dr. Silcox also told CAC members to feel free to contact him with any technical questions or issues.

A motion for accepting the minutes was put forward by Sidney Hullinger and seconded by David Ostler and was unanimously carried that the November 17, 2005, CAC meeting minutes be approved.

II. Follow up items.

Ms. Kim stated that she receives an Internet News Service and distributed a news article from that service to the CAC members entitled "Russia Blames CW Disposal Delay on the West."

III. **Deseret Chemical Depot Update – Colonel Raymond Van Pelt.**

Colonel Van Pelt utilized a power point presentation for the Deseret Chemical Depot update. (A copy of the presentation is available with the meeting minutes.) Colonel Van Pelt provided the following updates:

- One Million Munitions Milestone. This is a significant event because no other facility or Depot will accomplish this task.
- Completed VX Agent Campaign. The VX Agent mission was completed this summer and the third and final campaign of mustard agent will soon be underway.
- BRAC Decision. The Depot is on the BRAC list, but will complete its mission first.
- Decision on CAMDS Closure. The decision has been made that CAMDS will close in 2008. (Colonel Van Pelt stated that possibly at a future meeting, discussions can take place on what is being done in terms of closure at CAMDS.)
- Re-warehouse Secondary Waste. A lot of the secondary waste was stored in igloos. It has now been moved to two larger warehouses in Area 10. This move has improved the ability to perform weekly hazardous waste inspections.

- Developed Mustard Strategy. TOCDF and the Project Manager's office have worked through the mustard strategy. A plan has been developed for the next 4-5 years.
- TOCDF – Has conducted agent changeover and facility upgrade, so the plant will continue to process throughout the mustard campaign.
- Decision on DCD/TOCDF Treaty Milestone. The direction on the mustard completion is to complete 2200 tons by December of 2007. That will be the share of the United States goal of meeting the 45% treaty goal.
- AMC Surety Review was successful. CSEPP activities were successfully conducted in September 2005 and two 100% Treaty Inspections were successfully conducted in 2005. CAC members asked if the treaty inspections could involve a Russian observer? Colonel Van Pelt stated that it could, as the treaty inspection pulls a team in from Amsterdam. The team is made up of eight multi-national individuals. Two events occur in treaty inspections. The first inspection occurs when TOCDF is operational, these inspectors are on-site 24/7 validating what is being destroyed and what is being brought into the plant. The second inspection (that occurs twice a year, involves a separate team comes in and performs a 100% inspection of inventory at DCD.
- CAMDS Closure Study. A contractor performed a study on how to close CAMDS. Some requirements and documents indicating how much money it will cost and the timeframes involved were presented to the Army. The Army is currently reviewing this information.

Colonel Van Pelt gave a 2006 Review:

- Restart of CAMDS is scheduled to begin in February 2006 focusing on closure projects. In October, all hazardous waste work was stopped at CAMDS due to various concerns and issues. The plan is to restart in February primarily focusing on closure projects. All work performed at CAMDS in the next two years will relate to closing the facility.
- Begin Mustard Sampling in the spring. The Mustard ton container sampling is anticipated to start this spring.
- Restart TOCDF operations for final campaign with mustard this summer. The restart of TOCDF will be implemented to get it operational and get it back to a high security status for the start of the final campaign with mustard. The target start date will be this summer.
- Continue CAMDS closure efforts to meet October 2008 objective. The funding for CAMDS will end in October 2008. At that point, the final phase for demolishing the facility will be implemented.
- The Depot is in coordination with Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) and Utah DEQ to develop a Secondary Waste strategy. Waste is shipped out daily from TOCDF. A task has been given to the CMA to do an assessment of the secondary waste strategy for the Army. At the end of the study, direction will be provided on what the strategies are for the secondary waste. An evaluation of all options will be included in the study including on-site processing and off-site commercial alternatives. All decisions on how to proceed with the secondary waste strategy will be coordinated with the DEQ and the CAC.
- Chemical Surety Inspections, CSEPP activities, and Treaty Inspections will be taking place throughout the year.
- Change of Command anticipated in July 2006. Colonel Van Pelt will be replaced by Colonel Fred Palasier this summer. Colonel Van Pelt stated that Colonel Palasier is extremely knowledgeable with excellent leadership skills. Colonel Palasier formerly served as the commander of the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility. Colonel Van Pelt stated that, at this time, he is not aware of the location where he will be reassigned.

Colonel Van Pelt did a presentation on "What Does "Closure" look like?" A lewisite facility that was never utilized that is located at CAMDS was used as a model during the presentation to show how the entire process of closure is accomplished. Colonel Van Pelt stated that the buildings that are not being used to support closure at CAMDS will be closed. The buildings will be dismantled piece by piece and facility by facility. The closure process takes a long time and requires a lot of work and a lot of coordination with the State.

Geoffrey Silcox asked what happened to the lewisite agent. Colonel Van Pelt stated that the lewisite agent is still located at the Depot. The non-stockpile section of the agency may be tasked to destroy the lewisite at some point in the future. Currently, there are ten lewisite ton containers and four GA nerve ton containers. Ms. Kim asked if an incineration process or neutralization process will occur. Colonel Van Pelt stated he believes that it will be some sort of a neutralization process.

Ms. Kim asked if the "missing vial" was ever recovered. Colonel Van Pelt stated all areas were searched and it was never found. However, the Depot has now instituted changes with the monitoring personnel that requires

them to sign out the vials on a daily basis and to account for them. Colonel Van Pelt stated that all corrective measures have been taken to ensure that this type of incident does not ever happen again.

CAC members asked if the secondary waste is primarily protective clothing. Colonel Van Pelt stated it is a combination of various items including protective clothing (DP suits), plastic bags, cleanup material from inside the plant, rags, towels, and tools that have been contaminated. Characterization of the secondary waste is continuing, but can be difficult, as operations at the facility began in the 1940's.

IV. Program Status – Mr. Ted Ryba

Ted Ryba, TOCDF Site Project Manager, utilized a power point presentation for the Chemical Disposal Program Update. (A copy of the presentation is available with the meeting minutes.) Mr. Ryba provided the following updates:

Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility – (ABCDF) - Maryland

Operation of the Ton Container Cleanout (TCC) Facility continues and is now in the second phase of the project. The TCC is designed to clean, decontaminate, and cut in half steel containers that have had their mustard agent drained, neutralized and destroyed. As of January 15, 2006, 1,665 bulk containers have been processed and 92 percent of the stockpile has been completed. The campaign completion is expected by the end of January.

Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) – Alabama

The current campaign is 105mm projectiles, the last GB munitions at Anniston. There are on-going challenges with removing fuses that are slowing the processing rate. A possible maintenance outage of the DFS may be required before the end of the GB campaign is reached (campaign completion scheduled by end of February 2006.) As of January 15, 2006, overall disposal is 423 tons of GB agent, totaling 19 percent of the stockpile.

Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) – Kentucky

Initial infrastructure construction for the facility is expected to begin in 2006. The plant design is being finalized by the government's contractor, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG). BPBG will also systemize, pilot test, operate and ultimately close the plant. Project re-design is continuing to lower life cycle costs.

Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility – (NECDF) - Indiana

NECDF uses a neutralization process, mixing VX with sodium hydroxide and hot water. A maintenance outage was conducted January 9, 2006 for installation of reactor system upgrades. Decisions are still pending about treatment of the remaining hydrolysate stored in temporary containers. As of January 5, 2006, 95 bulk VX containers have been neutralized, totaling five percent of the stockpile.

Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility – (PBCDF) - Arkansas

Processing has been halted for a scheduled maintenance outage that will be conducted for the next five months. Major action will be replacement of pipes that transfer brine from the Pollution Abatement System to tanks. As of January 15, 2005, 183 tons of GB agent has been destroyed, totaling five percent of the stockpile.

Pueblo Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) – Colorado

The Army is reviewing a recent compliance order issued by state regulators that classifies all chemical weapons at the depot as hazardous waste and requires a RCRA permit for continued storage. Redesign of the PCAPP facility has been submitted to DoD and waiting approval. Military construction funds have been released along with additional funds for PCAPP through 2006 but waiting for long term funding.

Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility – (UMCDF) - Oregon

Two rocket fires occurred in December 2005, clearance given later by state regulators to continue. Four GB ton containers with plugs that previously leaked have been processed.

The plant has switched from rockets to disposing bombs to conduct a DFS scheduled maintenance outage. State regulators have given approval to start secondary waste destruction in the MPF. As of January 15, 2006, 309 tons of GB agent has been destroyed, totaling eight percent of the stockpile.

The Chemical Disposal Program Update included graphs indicating the national levels of the following agents being destroyed. A copy of the presentation is available with the meeting minutes.

Percentage of CMA Total Agent Stockpile Destroyed: Total Stockpile 31,498 Tons.
Total Destroyed 11,967 Tons = 38%, Total Remaining 19,531 Tons = 62%

Percentage of GB Agent CMA Stockpile Destroyed: Total GB CMA Stockpile 9,612 Tons.
Total Destroyed 8,286 Tons = 86.2%, Total Remaining 1,326 Tons = 13.8%

Percentage of VX Agent CMA Stockpile Destroyed: Total VX CMA Stockpile 4,512 Tons.
Total Destroyed 1,776 Tons = 39.4%, Total Remaining 2,736 Tons = 60.6%

Percentage of Mustard Agent CMA Stockpile Destroyed: Total Mustard CMA Stockpile 17,361 Tons. Total Destroyed 1,905 Tons = 11%, Total Remaining 15,456 Tons = 89%

V. Plant Status – Joe Majestic

Mr. Joe Majestic, General Manager, EG&G, utilized a power point presentation for the TOCDF Update. A copy of the presentation is available with the meeting minutes.

Utilizing a graph entitled “Safety Performance” the following information was presented:

The year 2005 was a very good year in terms of the 12 month Reportable Injury Rate (RIR). The RIR was below 1.0 (excluding food-borne illnesses). Mr. Majestic stated the challenge will be to sustain the RIR below 1.0. Incidents occurred in December that resulted in reportable injuries. Also, one incident happened last week that resulted in a reportable injury. The bulk of the reportable injuries were strains (backs, knees, etc.) Also, heat stress injuries often occur because employees spend so much time in protective gear. Mr. Majestic stated that most of the injuries happen in the office areas, such as slips, trips and falls. The incidents that recently occurred included a cut on the head that required stitches, a knee injury due to a fall that required surgery, and a back strain that required prescription drugs to be administered.

Utilizing a graph entitled “Environmental Performance” the following information was presented: April 2004-September 2004, 24 Human Error Non-Compliances occurred; October 2004-March 2005, 18 Human Error Non-Compliances occurred; April 2005-October 2005, 11 Human Error Non-Compliances occurred; and October 2005-March 2006, 7 Human Errors Non-Compliances have occurred. Mr. Majestic stated that performance can be turned around, but culture takes a longer time. Therefore, meetings are currently taking place with management to ensure that human error and non-compliance errors do not occur. Mr. Majestic stated the plant does better when in destruction of agent. When non-routine work is done errors seem to increase.

Key Changeover Activities include the following:

All the primary containment sump liners in the munitions demilitarization building have been replaced. This was accelerated by the early completion of the VX decontamination.

Bulk Drain System modifications are 60% complete.

ACAMS removal has begun in preparation for HD (mustard) monitoring installation. In total, approximately 80 ACAMS will be removed.

Class 3 Modification RCRA permit HD processing for Baseline. The 60-day public review period began on December 22, 2005. A public meeting will be held on February 1, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Outreach Office in Tooele.

The Class 2 Modification to the agent monitoring plan is also out for public comment. A second public meeting will be held on February 15, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Outreach Office in Tooele.
HVAC Filter bed change out. Five of the nine filter units are now complete.

Secondary Waste Demonstration Test. The purpose of the test is to demonstrate the ability to process secondary wastes in the MPF that are not currently permitted (DPE suits, etc.).

The shakedown is scheduled to begin and the test is scheduled for late February 2006. It may be postponed if it delays the start of PAS duct modifications. The shakedown period allows TOCDF to know if the furnace is capable of doing what is required and to tune it in for maximum throughput.

In the secondary waste plan, the Depot is allowed a number of hours that are tracked for processing time in the furnace. At the end of that period, during the actual burn there are various specific tests outlined, observed by the State, to verify that the burn was done in accordance with all the requirements of the plan. During the actual burn, all of the samples are collected and sent out for independence analysis to verify the results. That test defines the destruction efficiency of agent. The test results dictate how much waste can be burned at one time.

Ms. Kim asked if the pizza ovens will be utilized again. Mr. Majestic stated the pizza ovens were utilized for work that was being done by CAMDS. The pizza ovens are located at CAMDS. All of the GB agents that were at the Depot were decontaminated through the pizza ovens, but it was not successful for the VX agent. VX agent is more difficult to destroy and the decision was made to not utilize the pizza ovens.

Mr. Tim Olinger, utilized a power point presentation for the Mustard Agent. A copy of the presentation is available with the meeting minutes. Mr. Olinger presented detailed information on the Area 10 mustard sampling.

Construction is planned for completion in late January 2006. A three phase systemization is planned. Preparations for a joint DCD/TOCDF Operational Readiness Review has begun. Approximately, 6,400 ton containers will be sampled.

Area 10 – Filter upgrade and installation includes the following:

2 Banks Charcoal filter; 2 Bank Hepa filter; 1 Bank Pre-filter; and Chemical resistant frame

Area 10 – Crane and Gantry lifts off glove box lids and positions Ton containers. The Lids are designed to stack. The crane positions the Ton containers inside the Glove Box.

Area 10 – Glove Boxes discussion included Ton Container depressurization, HG Mustard sampling, and Heel depth determination.

Ms. Kim asked if there is a procedure in place if a spill occurs in the glove box. Mr. Olinger stated that the glove box will have decon inside the glove box. CAC members asked about the heels containing mercury, as these concerns are also associated with the mustard ton containers. Mr. Olinger stated that the liquid sample that will be taken is going to give an indication of the amount of ton containers with little to no mercury associated with the liquid and/or solids. Ton containers with mercury levels above one ppm will be set aside to be dealt with at a later time. It is estimated that 20% of the ton containers will have high mercury levels associated with them.

A commemorative coin was given to the CAC members signifying the completion of the VX campaign.

VI. DSHW Update – Martin Gray

There are three major permit modifications that the Division is currently working on.

The first permit modification is the mustard processing modification, called the “Mustard Ton Baseline Processing.” This is the low mercury-low heel ton containers. This permit is currently out for public comment. This is a Class 3 Permit Modification that requires a 60-day public comment period and a public meeting to receive comments. All comments are evaluated and changes are made to the permit modification if needed. The permit modification then goes back out for a 45-day public comment period and another public meeting is held.

The second permit modification is the “Mustard Monitoring Modification” for the monitoring that will occur at the plant. At this time, no mustard monitoring is being conducted at the plant. The monitors can not be utilized until this permit is approved or until temporary authorization is given by the State. The State anticipates seeing a temporary authorization from the Army so they can start collecting data to ensure all the monitors are working correctly.

The third permit modification deals with consolidating waste from igloos into two large buildings. One of the two buildings was previously permitted. The second building permit is now out for public comment. However, through a temporary authorization the Army is now placing waste in the second building.

On January 17, 2006 a Judge signed the most recent Judicial Consent Decree between the State and the permittees (Army and EG&G) to resolve a Notice of Violation that was issued from a 2004 inspection. Most issues have been resolved. Compliance schedules will need to be met. Also, an inspection report has been finalized for the 2005 inspection that was completed in October. No action has been taken yet on the results of the inspection.

The plan for accomplishing the secondary waste trial burn is still not approved. Minor corrections need to be made and it is anticipated all deadlines will be met.

VII. New Business:

Dr. Greg Jones was introduced. Dr. Jones is the new State's Science Advisor. Dr. Jones' Ph.D. is in bio-medical sciences, his Bachelors Degree is in mathematics and physics and philosophy. Dr. Jones stated it is a pleasure to be part of the CAC.

Dennis Downs stated that the document that creates the CAC states two members shall be representatives of state government who have direct responsibilities related to the chemical demilitarization program. Mr. Downs serves as one of those individuals and the State's Science Advisor has traditionally served as the other.

Ms. Kim stated that she is very interested in closure activities and risk reduction and the impact to the community. The community has benefited greatly from CSEP dollars, with respect to preparedness. Other communities are taking steps toward that direction including discussions on budget relative to risks. The Army stated that they will try to provide information at the next meeting.

VIII. Citizens Concerns

None to report.

IX. Adjourn

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for March 16, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. in the Tooele City Hall (City Council Room), located at 90 North Main, Tooele, Utah.